

THE REHEARSAL.

1. The *Observator's* Attempt to set my *Creditors* upon me for *Ante-Deluvian Debts*
2. His putting me in the *News-Papers* now for *Treason*, as formerly for the *Memo-*
rial.
3. He Complains of the *Approbation* the *Rehearsal* meets with.
4. His foolish *Story* of Tearing the *Addresses* of the *Lords*, and spreading the *Re-*
hearsals in their *Stead*.
5. What *Pains* he says he has taken to Ruin the *Rehearsal* and its *Author*.
6. He *Arraigns* the *Queen* and the *Ministry*, and says, they put *Jacobites* into all
Offices throughout *England*.
7. My *Charm* will not Fit him.
8. He encourages the *Pretender* to make a *Second Invasion*.

SATURDAY, February 19. 1708.

(1.) *Country-man.*

THE *Observator* and *Review* having try'd all Methods to do you a Mischief, and Solicited Publickly and Privately to Render you Obnoxious to the Government, and putting it in the *News-Papers* that ther were *Warrants of High Treason* out against you; have taken another manner to Distress you. The *Observator* of the 2d Instant, Vol. 8. N. 1. (he begins well) says, *That your Party furnish you with Money to pay your Debts, when you are Arrested, to prevent your falling into the Hands of the Law.*

Rehearsal. If he can make that good in any one Instance, I'll allow him to be an *Honest Man*! And tho' he may Suppose my *Party* (as he calls them) wou'd not tell, yet sure those who were so little my Friends as to *Arrest* me, wou'd not Scruple to let it be known how and from whom they *Receiv'd* their *Money*. And they have my free leave to tell. Ther is not a *Man* in *England* (I declare it) whom I wou'd ask to be *Bail* for me in an *Action of Debt*, or from whom I expect it, far less to pay *Old Debts* for me. For before the *Flood*, when things were better with me, I fell into that Good Natur'd *Folly* of being *Bound*, and yet all Circumstances consider'd, I might be partly *Excus'd*, but I will trouble no body with my private Affairs. Those Concern'd know my *Cafe* as well as I can tell them, That the *Deluge* swept away what might have Pay'd them. And they have Patience with me, Knowing that my *Life* may Pay them, but hastning my *Death* cannot, I have Convers'd freely with some of them, without any fear of Trouble from them, and had their *Friendship* never the les, for they knew

me. And the *Malice* of the *Observator* herein is so Apparent, that I apprehend not any ill Consequence from it of what he Intends.

(2.) And for his *News-Papers*, it is not the first time I have tasted of his Kindness that way. About 3 or 4 Years ago he put it in the *Flying-Post* that I was taken up as *Author* of the *Memorial of the Church of England*, and had given a Thousand pound *Bail*, &c. Of which I took Notice in my first Vol. N. 102. so that this was *Repeating* a *Jest*, which among *Wits* is *Dull*. Such things as these have given that *Paper* the Name of the *Lying-Post* all all over the Town.

(3.) *Country-m.* He makes you a Great *Man*, *Master*. He tells how you are *Attended* and *Caref'd* by *Clubs of the Faction*, as he calls them. And who are these? He says, *Those that Eat the Queen's Bread, bind up Sets of your Rehearsals, and Disperse them, and carry it on by Subscription.*

Rehears. This is good News to the *Publisher*. Whom he told but Lately, that the *Rehearsals* did not pay *Paper* and *Print*. He shou'd make his *Story* all of a Piece. But why shou'd not they who *Eat the Queen's Bread* encourage a *Paper* which wou'd Save her from the *Coercion of Observators and Reviews* and all the *Mob* of the Nation? For if those *Principles* took place, they wou'd not much longer have *Bread to Eat*.

(4.) *Country-m.* He says, *They tear the Addresses of the Lords in Publick Houses, and Spread Rehearsals in their Stead.*

Rehears

Rehears. He shou'd have said in *Private Houses*, for then he might bid us go *Hunt* and find them out! But in *Publick-Houses* sure it wou'd be *Known*. Else how came it to be *Known*? Therefore if he do's not Name the *Place*, and Prove this— He must e'en go for what he is!

(5.) *Country-m.* He says in the next Words to his *Country-man*.

" You and I can do no more than we have done, *Roger*, to Warn those Concern'd to Prevent such things, and of the Mischief done by that *Paper*, but hitherto without Effect.

Rehears. None of your Fault, Mr. *Observator*, or of your *Roger*. For it must be own'd, you have taken true Pains, since you cou'd no longer *Answer* that *Paper*, to have it *Suppreſſ'd*, and the *Author* to Suffer the Pains of *High-Treason*, for Teazing your Heart out, as he has done. For you know, you are the *Original of Government*, from whom *Queen* and *Parliament* Derive their Title, and so the *Highest Treason* is against your *Worship* and your Brethren of the *Mobb*! Our *Sovereign Lord the People*!

(6.) *Country-m.* And he Behaves himself Accordingly, with an *Air of Authority* (I assure you) above the *Queen* and her *Ministry*, and calls them to a severe Account. He says in this same *Observator*, That there's scarce an *Office in England*, where there are not *Jacobites*, or *Worse Men Employ'd*.

Rehears. Thi is Appelling to our *Sovereign Lord the People* indeed, from the *Queen* and her *Ministry*! But he says *Worse Men than Jacobites*. Can any thing be *Worse* than a *Jacobe*?

Country-m. O, Yes, he Explains himself, he says he means those, who when they take the *Oaths*, bid the Devil go down with them. And I Doubt not (says he) he Enters into them with the *Oath*, as he did *Judas with the Sop*.

Rehears. This is a Terrible Account indeed! But he makes himself Judge of those who he says take the *Oaths* thus *Unwillingly*! And he will not Allow the *Queen* or her *Ministry* to Judge of this! By which he Arraigns them to the *People*, either of very Gross Ignorance, or of being Themselves in the Design, and either way not fit to Govern! If he cou'd have found such an Insinuation as this in all my *Papers*, his Sollicitations against me wou'd have had more Success.

(7.) *Country-m.* Where is now the *Armor of Proof* he says you have got, to creep through the *Briars* as you do without a Scratch, when *Observators* and *Reviews* have been Prosecuted, Pillory'd, &c. Those good Friends of the *Government*! He certainly thinks you have a *Charm*.

Rehears. I have so, *Country-man*. *Country-m.* Will you tell it me? *Master*, The *Observator* and *Review* wou'd give me a good Deal for it.

Rehears. It will not fit them, *Country-man*.

Country-m. Pray try, *Master*. They'll Squeez hard but they will make it fit them, for I fancy their *Necks* do *itch* sometimes for all the *Treasons* they vent, and their Bold *Arraigning* of the *Government*.

Rehears. My *Charm* is but one *Word*, that is, *Innocence*. While you keep that about you, no *Harm* can Touch you.

Country-m. They'll *Beat* me (as they Threaten to do you) if I should tell them such a *Charm* as that, They wou'd think I Affronted them!

Rehears. I told you it wou'd not Fit them— They may see what I Trusted to as my Defence against all their *Malice* (which I fore-saw when I first Enter'd the *Lifts* with them) in the *Motto* I put to my first Volume, *E me Qui Sidera fulcit*. And He has not fail'd me.

(8.) *Country-m.* You're *Safe* there, *Master*. But the *Observator* and *Review* are both full of a *Second Invasion*. And they say your *Papers* do promote it.

Rehears. How! Because I preach *Loyalty* and the *Laws of the Land*! Did *Passive Obedience* ever yet bring about a *Revolution*! But if what the *Observator* says be true, that all *Posts* are fill'd with *Jacobites*, &c. I leave it to all men to judge whether he or I do most encourage the *Pretender* to make a *Second Attempt*? If the *Observator* should at last be hang'd for a *Jacobe*!

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